

bole was a pair of moths engaged in what can only be described as a tug of war match. I have been told the reason for the extremely powerful forelegs of this moth is for this purpose. Both moths were tugging at each other, with the flapping of wings adding to the momentum. It seems the gripping of the forelegs in head on fashion, and the pulling and pushing precedes pairing. Unfortunately my light disturbed them and they separated before dropping to the ground where I left them. It would be interesting to hear from any other readers on the aspect of this curious behaviour.—J. PLATTS, 11 May-downs Road, Chestfield, Whitstable, Kent.

THE CONVULVULUS HAWK (*AGRIUS CONVULVULI* (L.) ON MERSEYSIDE. — A specimen of this moth was captured resting among garden mint at Speke, Merseyside, by Master Roland Kelly on 28th August, 1978. The specimen was brought to the Museum for identification and kindly donated to the collections. — I. D. WALLACE, Merseyside County Museums, William Brown Street, Liverpool.

DISSEMINATION IN THE PSYCHIDAE. — I refer to Mr. Johnson's Note under this heading (1978, *Ent. Rec.*, **90**: 187), and would suggest that by far the most likely method of dissemination is through the carriage of newly hatched larvae by wind. This seems much more feasible than the transfer of ova or pupae by wind or by the passage of ova through animal's intestines.

The newly hatched larvae of *Orgyia* seem well designed for such flights, having a very large surface area to weight ratio, and, being fairly general feeders on trees and shrubs, have a more than reasonable chance of survival where they finish up.

I have bred a number of Psychids from chance found female cases and have found that the newly hatched larvae are extremely active, climbing about and dropping, suspended by a silken thread, at the slightest touch. Such larvae would be easily transported by wind and, like *Orgyia*, are usually extremely polyphagous.

Whilst the apterous females of some of the winter moths are said to be transported by the males during copulation, I think the size ratio of males to females rules this out in the case of *Orgyia* or the Psychidae.—D. G. SEVASTOPULO, F.R.E.S., P.O. Box 95026, Mombasa, Kenya.

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### The Butterflies and Moths of Kent

I propose to conclude Volume 3 in 1979 with a Supplement, in which it is intended to give up-to-date information on many species treated since the start of the work in 1960. I would therefore much appreciate receiving additional interesting records with a view to publishing these in the Supplement.—J. M. CHALMERS-HUNT, 1 Hardcourts Close, West Wickham, Kent BR4 9LG.